

CALIFORNIA DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

State Public Assistance Program

The California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) authorizes the Secretary of the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) to administer a disaster assistance program that provides financial assistance from the state for costs incurred by local governments as a result of a disaster event. Funding for the repair, restoration, or replacement of public real property damaged or destroyed by a disaster is made available when the Secretary concurs with a local emergency proclamation requesting state disaster assistance. The program also provides for the reimbursement of local government costs associated with certain emergency activities undertaken in response to a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor. In addition, the program may provide matching fund assistance for cost sharing required under federal public assistance programs in response to a Presidential Major Disaster or Emergency Declaration. The implementing regulations for CDAA can be found in Title 19 of the California Code of Regulations, Chapter 6.

The state Public Assistance Program provides funding to cities, counties, special districts, school districts, and community colleges in the event of a state disaster. In general, the state share is no more than 75 percent of total state eligible costs. However, funding may vary with the type of disaster at the discretion of the state Legislature. Eligible costs include: (1) overtime and associated wage additive costs for emergency response personnel; (2) actual travel and per diem; (3) supplies, materials, and equipment; (4) repair, permanent restoration, and replacement costs for public facilities; (5) the cost of basic engineering services when necessary for construction projects; (4) indirect and administrative costs (10% of total approved state share); (5) costs for work performed under interagency assistance agreements for which an eligible applicant is legally obligated to pay; and (6) the local cost share required under federal public assistance programs. In addition, under Section 8686.4 of the Government Code, when the Secretary determines there are mitigation measures that are cost-effective and that substantially reduce the risk of future damage, hardship, loss, or suffering in an area where a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor, the Secretary may authorize the implementation of mitigation measures.

CALIFORNIA DISASTER ASSISTANCE APPLICATION FORMS

The following CDAA forms are available to download:

CDAA Form 1/Cal EMA Form 126 – Project Application

This is the initial form used to apply for public assistance under the California Disaster Assistance Act. This form must be submitted to the California Emergency Management Agency within sixty (60) days after the date of a local declaration. The Cal EMA Secretary may extend this deadline for unusual or extraordinary circumstances.

Cal EMA Form 95 – List of Projects

This form is used when filing an application for assistance. This form lists the applicant's projects for which financial assistance is being requested and should be filed with Cal EMA Form 126. Other forms than the Cal EMA Form 95 may be substituted if they contain the required information.

Cal EMA Form 130 – Designation of Applicant's Agency Resolution

This form is used to file a resolution designating an applicant's authorized representative to whom all official correspondence and funding will be directed. Please note that funding will not be provided until this form has been approved by the state and on file.

CDAA Form 4a –Project Summary Certification of Documentation

This form is used when requesting a final inspection for state-only disasters and when an applicant's project has been cost-shared with a federal agency other than the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The CDAA Form 4a serves as a certification of project completion and costs once all the applicant's projects have been completed.

Cal EMA Form 89 – Project Application for Federal Assistance

This form is used to apply for federal assistance as a result of a federally declared disaster.

Cal EMA Form 131 – Large Project Reimbursement Request/Federal Public Assistance Program

This form is used to apply for reimbursement from the Federal account in federally declared disasters.